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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/509,700 | 09/30/2004 | Kazutaka Hara | 042726 | 2160 |
| 38834 | 7590 | 06/04/2007 | EXAMINER | |
| WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP | | | SHAFER, RICKY D | |
| 1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW | | | | |
| SUITE 700 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| WASHINGTON, DC 20036 | | | 2872 | |
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| | | | MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
| | | | 06/04/2007 | PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/509,700 | HARA ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Ricky D. Shafer | Art Unit 2872 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 February 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3,4 and 6-10 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 1,2,5 and 11-21 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 30 September 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

| | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/30/04, 12/22/04 & 9/28/05</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's election with traverse of group I (claim 2) in the reply filed on 02/12/2007 is acknowledged. In view of the allowability of generic or linking claims 1 and 21, claims 5 and 11-20 previously withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a nonelected invention have been rejoined. Accordingly, applicant's remarks filed on 02/12/2007 are considered moot.
2. Claims 3 and 4 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim to this particular invention (invention II). Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on 02/12/2007.

3. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

A). The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the quarter wavelength plate being disposed outside of the circular polarizer, the absorptive dichroic polarizing plate, the translucent layers of an adhesive, the reflective layer and the liquid crystal cell must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the

drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

B). Claims 1, 2, 5 and 11-21 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1, lines 8 and 11, the language "Formulae" should be changed to
--formula--.

In claim 1, line 9, the language "(λ/10)" should be changed to
-- λ/10--.

In claim 1, line 10, the language "(λ/8)" should be changed to
-- λ/8--.

In claim 1, line 11, the language "wherein in" should be changed to
--wherein the--.

In claim 1, line 13, the language "of retardation (in-plane retardation)" should be changed to --of an in plane retardation--.

In claim 1, line 14 and claim 15, line 4, the language "(normal direction)" should be deleted.

In claim 1, line 16, the language "(in-plane slow axis direction)" should be deleted.

In claim 1, lines 17-18, the language “(in-plane fast axis direction)” should be deleted.

In claim 11, line 3, the language “the selective” should be changed to --a selective--.

In claim 16, lines 3-4, the language “the reflective...that is one” should be changed to --of at least one--.

In claim 16, line 5 , the language “the visible” should be changed to --a visible--.

In claim 18, line 2, the language “elements” should be changed to --layers--.

Appropriate correction is required.

C). This application contains claims 3 and 4 drawn to an invention nonelected with traverse in the reply filed on 02/12/2007. A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancellation of nonelected claims or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144) See MPEP § 821.01.

4. Claims 1, 2, 5 and 11-21 would be allowable, if amended to overcome the above mentioned objections.

5. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest a polarization component comprising at least two reflective circular polarizer layers and a retardation layer disposed there between, wherein said polarization component includes the limitations and arrangement as recited in claim 1, lines 3-25.

Art Unit: 2872

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

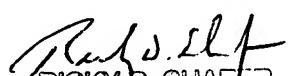
A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ricky D. Shafer whose telephone number is (571) 272-2320. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

RDS

May 29, 2007


RICKY D. SHAFER
PATENT EXAMINER
ART. U.S. #2872